

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OC-05

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 /006 R

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DRAFTED BY:A/OC/N:JWJACARUSO:KLH

APPROVED BY:A/OC:WENAEHER

----- 061804

R 280257Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO DIRECTOR DCA WASHDC

MANAGER NCS WASHDC

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THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO SECSTATE WASHDC DTG O 261452Z JAN76  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 1121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM, UR, US

SUBJECT: US/USSR DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS LINK (DCL) TALKS

REF: MOSCOW 0872 AND PREVIOUS

1. MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, SMIRNOV,  
TELEPHONED EMBOFF JANUARY 26 TO INFORM THAT SOVIET SIDE WOULD  
LIKE TO POSTPONE DCL TALKS UNTIL AFTER MARCH 8. SMIRNOV SAID A  
FORMAL LETTER OUTLINING THE SOVIET  
POSITION WOULD BE SENT SHORTLY TO EMBASSY. AT FIRST, REASON  
INDICATED WAS THAT THE L'VOV TRIP COULD NOT BE ARRANGED DURING  
FEBRUARY 2-6 FOR REASONS WHICH WERE "NOW WELL-KNOWN."  
(COMMENT: PRAVDA ON JANUARY 4 ANNOUNCED THAT MILITARY MANEUVERS  
WOULD BE HELD FROM JANUARY 25-FEBRUARY 6 IN THE L'VOV REGION.  
END COMMENT) EMBOFF INQUIRED WHETHER VISIT COULD GO ON IF L'VOV  
TRIP WERE CANCELLED. SMIRNOV THEN SAID A MORE IMPORTANT  
REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT WAS THAT SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD  
BE SOVIET DELEGATION MEMBERS ARE NOW UNABLE TO BE

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PRESENT AT THE MEETINGS.

2. TEXT OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO ECON/COMM COUNSELOR AND SIGNED BY DR. SAVITSKIY WAS DELIVERED BY SMIRNOV LATER IN DAY. EMBASSY'S INFORMATION TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:  
BEGIN QUOTE: THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS ADVISES THAT THE SPECIALISTS WHO MUST TAKE PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE USA DELEGATION ON THE QUESTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND USE OF THE DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS LINK WILL BE OCCUPIED DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY WITH THE FULFILLMENT OF PRESSING TASKS AND, UNFORTUNATELY CANNOT TAKE PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS.  
IN CONNECTION WITH THIS, WE PRESENT OUR APOLOGIES AND PROPOSE TO TRANSFER THE BEGINNING OF THE DISCUSSIONS TO ANY DATE ACCEPTABLE TO THE AMERICAN SIDE AFTER MARCH 8 OF THIS YEAR.  
I ASK THAT YOU INFORM MR. NAEHER AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION OF THIS. END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT - EMBOFF HAD THE STRONG IMPRESSION FROM TALKING TO SMIRNOV THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE PARTY CONGRESS MAY HAVE BEEN A KEY FACTOR IN THE SOVIET POSTPONEMENT REQUEST. THE DECISION WAS PROBABLY VERY RECENT AS EMBOFF HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT CHIEF NOVIKOV LAST WEEK AND HE GAVE NO INDICATION ANYTHING WAS AMISS.

STOESSEL  
UNQUOTE  
KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 28 JAN 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** morefirh  
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**TAGS:** ACOM, UR, US  
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